

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 04142 171423Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 /025 W
-----026080 190125Z /21
R 171416Z MAR 78
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7347
INFO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI IMMEDIATE

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NAIROBI FOR THE US REP TO UNEP

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: AORG, UNEP
SUBJECT: US CANDIDATE FOR POSITION CHIEF, DIVISION OF
FUND MANAGEMENT, UNEP

1. AMCIT DANIEL CONWAY, WHO WILL BE LEAVING ILO BECAUSE OF POSITION ABOLISHMENT END OF MONTH, WAS INTERVIEWED EARLIER THIS WEEK IN PARIS BY USUF AHMAD, DEPUTY ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, UNEP, FOR P-5 POSITION AS CHIEF, FUND MANAGEMENT. ORIGINALLY INTERVIEWED BY AHMAD LATTER PART OF DECEMBER, WITH SUBSEQUENT INTERVIEW SPECIFICALLY REQUESTED BY UNEP.

2. ACCORDING TO CONWAY, AHMAD INFORMED HIM THAT LIST OF APPLICANTS HAD BEEN WHITTLED DOWN TO TWO, CONWAY BEING ONE OF THEM. OTHER CANDIDATE IS A UK CITIZEN NAMED BROUGH, WHO IS CURRENTLY RESIDENT IN NAIROBI. AHMAD FURTHER TOLD CONWAY THAT HE (CONWAY) WAS FAVORED CANDIDATE, PRIMARILY BECAUSE OF HIS ASSOCIATION WITH UN SYSTEM, BUT THAT IT WAS TOUCH AND GO WHO WILL FINALLY BE SELECTED SINCE BROUGH HAD OFFICIAL ENDORSEMENT OF UK HIGH COMMISSIONER TO KENYA WHO WAS URGING HIS HIRE. AHMAD THEN SAID IT WOULD BE VERY USEFUL IF CONWAY COULD GET

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SIMILAR OFFICIAL ENDORSEMENT FROM USG. IT IS INTERESTING TO NOTE THAT POSITION DESCRIPTION FOR JOB CALLS FOR SEVERAL YEAR'S EXPERIENCE IN UN SYSTEM, WHICH CONWAY HAS AND BROUGH DOES NOT, ASSUMPTION BEING THAT BROUGH CANDIDACY AT LEAST PARTLY VIABLE SOLELY BECAUSE OF UK HIGH COMMISSIONER'S INTEREST.

3. FROM MISSION PERSPECTIVE, WE WOULD VERY MUCH LIKE TO SEE CONWAY SELECTED FOR POST. AS DEPARTMENT AWARE, CONWAY HAS BACKGROUND, INTEREST, AND MOTIVATION NEEDED IN UN SYSTEM, AND HAS ESTABLISHED VERY FAVORABLE REPUTATION IN GENEVA DURING HIS TENURE WITH ILO. MOREOVER, IT APPEARS TO MISSION THAT THIS IS ONE OF THE KEY POSTS WE WOULD WANT TO ADDRESS OURSELVES TO, SINCE THE FUND MANAGEMENT DIVISION, INTER-ALIA, IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL UNEP TECHNICAL COOPERATION ACTIVITIES FINANCED BY THE UN ENVIRONMENT FUND. LAST, A SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION TO CONWAY'S APPLICATION WOULD GIVE SOME CREDENCE TO OUR STATED COMMITMENT TO ASSIST AMERICANS LEAVING THE ILO AS A CONSEQUENCE OF OUR WITHDRAWAL FROM THAT ORGANIZATION.

4. IN VIEW ABOVE, MISSION WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT INSTRUCTING US REP TO UNEP TO INFORM UNEP OF USG ENDORSEMENT OF CONWAY FOR POSITION. THIS WOULD PROBABLY BEST BE DONE WITH FORMAL WRITTEN COMMUNICATION TO UNEP EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, TOLBA, FOLLOWED UP BY INFORMAL CALL. SINCE DECISION EXPECTED TO BE TAKEN BY END OF MARCH, ESSENTIAL THAT USG ENDORSEMENT BE MADE NO LATER 23 MARCH. VANDEN HEUVEL

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